

Message Text

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ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3602

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 6216

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A. KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: TUNIS 6207, STATE 217516, STATE 217439,
STATE 217459.

1. DISCUSSION WITH MOFA CHIEF OF PROTOCOL ABDENNEBI
THIS MORNING LEADS US EXPECT FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR
SECRETARY'S VISIT:

A. ARRIVAL 1800 NOV 6. SECRETARY WILL BE MET BY FONMIN
MASMOUDI ACCOMPANIED BY TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR TO
WASHINGTON EL GOULLI, MOFA DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL
AFFAIRS (AMBASSADOR) SALAH LADGHAM, MOFA CHIEF OF
PROTOCOL TAOUFIK ABDENNEBI, MOFA DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN
DIVISION MONCEF OUNAIES AND MOFA DIRECTOR PRESS
DIVISION SADOK SADOK SAHEB ETTABA. EMBASSY
PERSONNEL WILL BE AMBASSADOR, DCM AND USAID DIRECTOR
SUMNER GERARD.

B. CARS WILL BE LINED UP AT AIRCRAFT. SECRETARY WILL
REVIEW HONOR GUARD AS HE WALKS TO HIS CAR (ESTIMATED
DISTANCE 15 METERS) SHAKING HAND OF HONOR GUARD
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CAPTAIN EN ROUTE. CARS WILL DEPART IMMEDIATELY FOR

PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. TELEVISION WILL BE PRESENT AT ARRIVAL, BUT NOT RPT NOT PRESS.

C. THREE OR FOUR CARS WILL CONVEY GROUP TO PALACE. QUESTION OF NUMBER INVOLVES WHETHER CAR TRANSPORTING SECRETARY AND MASMOUDI WILL ALSO HAVE TWO JUMP SEATS PERMITTING TOUMAYAN AND/OR SOMEONE ELSE TO RIDE IN SAME CAR. IF THERE ARE JUMP SEATS (WE ASSUME TWO WOULD BE AVAILABLE), WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHO YOU WOULD LIKE HAVE OCCUPY OTHER JUMP SEAT. IF NO JUMP SEATS, IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR TOUMAYAN RIDE IN BACK SEAT, PRESUMABLY BETWEEN SECRETARY AND MASMOUDI. SINCE CARS BEING FURNISHED BY GOT, WE MAY NOT HAVE DEFINITE WORD ON JUMP SEATS UNTIL MORNING NOV 6.

D. IN ADDITION TO MASMOUDI AND EL COULLI AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, ABDENNEBI UNDERSTANDS PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA WILL BE THERE. THERE MAY BE OTHERS AS WELL, BUT IF SO ABDENNEBI NOT YET AWARE WHO THEY MAY BE.

E. THOSE NOT RIDING IN SECRETARY'S CAR WILL FOLLOW IN TWO OR THREE OTHER CARS (IN CORTEGE) ALSO FURNISHED BY GOT.

F. AT CLOSE OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT, PARTY WILL FACE TELEVISION CAMERAS AND PROBABLY ONE OR MORE FROM TUNISIAN PRESS EN ROUTE TO VEHICLES. SECRETARY WILL PROBABLY BE ASKED SAY SOMETHING AT THIS POINT. WE RECOMMEND, HOWEVER, THAT IF HE CHOOSES MAKE FEW REMARKS AT ALL, HE DO SO AT AIRPORT JUST BEFORE TAKE-OFF WHEN AMERICAN PRESS IS PRESENT. GOT IN ANY CASE UNDERSTANDS THAT THERE WILL BE NO PRESS CONFERENCE AND NO ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE STATEMENTS.

G. SECRETARY WILL TROOP HONOR GUARD AGAIN AS HE BOARDS AIRCRAFT. DEPARTURE AT 1930.

2. RE QUESTION OF PLANNING FOR THOSE NOT ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY TO MEETING (STATE 217516), SALON D'HONNEUR AT CONFIDENTIAL

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AIRPORT WILL BE OPEN AND AVAILABLE. SALON IS LOCATED AT POINT WHERE AIRCRAFT WILL BE PARKED. DRINKS, ALCOHOLIC AND NON-ALCOHOLIC WILL BE AVAILABLE. WE ARE PREPARED ARRANGE SHORT BUS TOUR TO NEARBY CARTHAGE FOR THOSE WHO WISH IT. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT BUS SHOULD GO INTO CITY OF TUNIS SINCE ARRIVAL IS RIGHT AT HEIGHT OF TRAFFIC PERIOD AND COULD EASILY BE DELAYED (RISK OF FLAT TIRE OR OTHER BREAKDOWN IN QUIETER AREA OF CARTHAGE ALREADY ENOUGH, BUT WE SHALL HAVE BACKUP

VEHICLES AVAILABLE JUST IN CASE). AIRPORT HAS SMALL SHOPS THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE. WE ALSO PREPARED ARRANGE UNCLASSIFIED BRIEFING ON TUNISIA FOR PRESS IF THIS DESIRED. UNDERSTAND FROM STATE 217439 THAT PICKERING WILL WISH COME TO EMBASSY. WE WILL HAVE VEHICLE AND ESCORT FOR HIM. BELIEVE THAT IN VIEW SHORTAGE OF TIME, THIS IS ALL WE CAN SUGGEST. BUS WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE TIME TO STOP AT LOCAL STORE TO PERMIT TRAVELLERS BROWSE AND SHOP. THERE TWO TELEPHONES AT SALON D'HONNEUR. ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE GIVE LONG DISTANCE CALLS PRIORITY ON THESE LINES DURING STOPOVER. ONLY OTHER TELEPHONES AT AIRPORT ARE PUBLIC PAY PHONES. EMBASSY CONTACT AT AIRPORT WILL BE TIENKEN.

3. RE STATE 214869, WILL AIRCRAFT HAVE REFUELING REQUIREMENTS? MAY WE HAVE DETAILS OF CREW?

4. ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR EXCHANGE OF GIFTS AT AIRPORT BETWEEN EMBOFF HARE AND STAFF MEMBER OF MOFA PROTOCOL. IT PROBABLE THAT TUNISIANS WILL PRESENT GIFTS FOR SECRETARY, NEWSOM AND SISCO.

5. EXPECT THERE MAY WELL BE CHANGE OR TWO BEFORE SECRETARY ARRIVES. IF SO, WE WILL PASS ON AS SOON AS WE HAVE THEM.

6. FOR NEWSOM: IN VIEW 1930 DEPARTURE, I HAVE DECIDED AGAINST INVITING TUNISIANS TO DINNER EVENING NOV 6. PLAN INSTEAD STAG LUNCHEON NOV 7. IT POSSIBLE TUNISIANS WILL WANT TO ENTERTAIN EVENING NOV 6, BUT I DOUBT IT. TENTATIVE APPOINTMENT ARRANGED FOR YOU WILL NOUIRA 10:00 NOV 7. MEETING WITH MASMOUDI NOT YET ARRANGED SINCE HE HAS NOT YET RETURNED FROM CAIRO WHERE HE HAS BEEN FOR PAST SEVERAL DAYS. DUE BACK TODAY.
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